

POSITION: Research Biologist, GS-401-11**NUMBER OF VACANCIES:** 1 Full-time position**TYPE OF APPOINTMENT:** Temporary, NTE 1 year and 1 day, may be extended or terminated sooner based on workload, staffing or funding)**SALARY RANGE:** \$48-550 to \$63,120 per annum**POSITION DESCRIPTION:** 40045A**NOTE 1:** Applicants without prior federal service will be appointed at step one of the grade.**NOTE 2:** This agency provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the agency. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be on a case-by-case basis.**NOTE 3:** Appointment to positions at this facility requires completion of a background investigation. Candidates selected must complete the investigation request, and will be fingerprinted prior to appointment.**NOTE 4:** A pre-employment physical examination may be required for an applicant not currently employed by the VA Medical Center who is tentatively selected.**NOTE 5:** A drug test may be required for any applicant tentatively selected from outside the VA Medical Center.***NOTE 6:** This is a Non-Bargaining Unit position.**LOCATION:** This position is located in the Research Service, Portland OR Division; however, it may be necessary to utilize the selected person's services at a different Medical Center location if conditions require it in the future.**TOUR OF DUTY:** Position is dayshift, M-F. The work conditions may require a change in the tour of duty.**AREA OF CONSIDERATION:** Any US Citizen.**Displaced/Surplus Federal Employees:** Employees covered under the provision of the inter-agency Career Transition Plan (ICTAP) and Career Transition assistance Plan (CTAP) (displaced VA Employees) eligibles will be given priority consideration for vacancies within the **local commuting area** for which they are well qualified. Applicants requesting this consideration must attach appropriate proof of the ICTAP eligibility with their application.**DUTIES:** The complete description may be reviewed in the Human Resources Management Division. The following duties and responsibilities are taken from the position description and are considered to be a brief extract. The incumbent will assist in developing policies, procedures and criteria for respective research program. The incumbent will also perform a variety of administrative duties to maintain specialized data and assist in the implementation of study designs. Maintains records, prepares and designs project protocols, and reports findings to colleagues and supervisor.**QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:****Eligibility:** U.S. Office of Personnel Management Qualification Standards for GS-401 series applies and may be reviewed in the Human Resources Management Division office. Regulatory requirements such as "time-in-grade" and "time after competitive appointment are applicable.**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:****Basic Requirements:**

A. Degree: (Master's or equivalent graduate degree) biological sciences.

OR

B. Combination of education and experience--Courses equivalent to a major, as shown in A above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

NOTE: Copies of transcripts are required to be submitted with application packet.**IN ADDITION TO THE BASIC EDUCATION REQUIREMENT APPLICANT NEEDS TO HAVE:****Specialized Experience:** One year of experience that equipped the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform successfully the duties of the position, and that is typically in or related to the work of the position to be filled. To be creditable, specialized experience must have been equivalent to at least the next lower grade level in the normal line of progression for the occupation in the organization.**Rating Factors:** On a separate sheet of paper, provide a written, detailed response to each of the **RATING FACTORS**. **Failure to respond to rating factors will result in applicant not being referred for the position:** 1. Describe your knowledge and experience in using electron and laser scanning confocal microscopes. 2. Describe your knowledge and experience in preparing reagents (fixatives, antibody solutions), and preparing tissue for microscopy. 3. Describe your knowledge and experience in computer-aided image processing using Adobe Photoshop. 4. Describe your knowledge and experience in coordinating and monitoring a microscopy and image processing facility: scheduling usage, training users, billing and maintaining equipment. 5. Describe your knowledge and experience in computer-aided analysis of scientific data.**WELL-QUALIFIED (CTAP/ICTAP):** A well-qualified candidate is defined as one who meets the qualification and eligibility requirements for the position, including all educational/experience and selective factors (when applicable), and is able to satisfactorily perform the duties of the position upon entry.**EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:** All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, politics, marital status, non-disqualifying physical or mental handicap, age or membership or non-membership in a labor organization.**HOW TO APPLY:** You may submit OF 612 (Optional Application for Federal Employment), a resume, or other written format (i.e., SF-171). If your resume or application does not provide all the information requested on the OF 612 and this vacancy announcement, you may lose consideration for the position. In addition, the following forms must be completed/provided and returned to Human Resources Management Service by the closing date:

- OF-306, "Declaration for Federal Employment"
- On a separate sheet of paper, provide a written, detailed response to each of the **RATING FACTORS** listed in the paragraph above.
- SF 50, "Notification of Personnel Action" (for proof of civilian Federal status). (if applicable)
- DD-214, "Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty" (if claiming veterans preference and/or VRA eligibility).
- SF-15, "Application for 10-point Veteran Preference" (with required documentation for proof). (if applicable)
- Appropriate proof of ICTAP eligibility. (if applicable)

HOW TO OBTAIN FORMS:**Forms are available online at www.portland.med.va.gov/hr****In Portland:**VA Medical Center, Human Resources Management Division
3710 SW US Veterans Hospital Road, (Bldg. 16, Room 300)
Portland, OR 97239. Phone # (503) 273-5236**If Mailing:**VA Medical Center,
Human Resources Management Division (P4HRMS)
P.O. Box 1034
Portland, OR 97207**Human Resources Management Division will not photocopy any application material; applicants are responsible for making photocopies prior to submitting applications. Applications must be received in Human Resources Management Division in the Portland office as listed above, no later than 4:30 p.m. on the closing date of the vacancy announcement. Applications will not be returned to applicants. For additional information you may contact a Personnel Clerk at 273-5236.**